



IFW
1648

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Darke, Paul L. *et al.*

Art Unit: 1648

Serial No.: 10/070,220

Case No.: 20511P

Filed: February 27, 2002

Examiner: Wortman, Donna C.

For: HEPATITIS C VIRUS REPLICATION
INHIBITORS

Commission for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

Responsive to the restriction requirement mailed May 18, 2004, applicants provisionally elect Group I (claims 1-6, 40 and 41) and the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 13. The election is made with traverse.

Applicants request that Groups II (claim 7) and IV (claims 42-44), be examined with Group I claims. The provided basis for the restriction requirement was that the claims allegedly covered a compound described in the prior art. Groups I, II and IV are method claims.

Please charge deposit account 13-2755 for fees due in connection with this response. If any time extensions are needed for the timely filing of the present amendment, applicants

37 C.F.R. 1.8 Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450, on the date appearing below.

MERCK & CO., INC.


By

Date June 18, 2004

Sheldon O. Heber

petition for such extensions and authorize the charging of deposit account 13-2755 for the appropriate fees.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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